

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 036547

EXDIS, TOSEC 132

FOLLOWING REPEAT COPENHAGEN 515 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO OTTAWA,
TOKYO, BONN, BRUSSELS, DUBLIN, LONDON, LUXEMBOURG, PARIS, ROME,
THE HAGUE, EC BRUSSELS, OECD PARIS & OSLO DATED 22 FEB 1974:

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 0515

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, DA

SUBJ: ENERGY:ORGANIZING MEETING OF COORDINATING
GROUP: DANISH VIEWS ON ORGANIZATION

REF: STATE 34417

1. FONOFF (RIBERHOLDT) TOLD US THAT UNDER SEC-
RETARY CHRISTENSEN PLANSAT MONDAY MEETING TO
PROPOSE MODIFICATION OF USG SUGGESTION ON OR-
GANIZATION OF CORDINATING GROUP WHICH HE VERY
STRONGLY FEELS SHOULD BE HELPFUL IN IMPROVING
EFFICIENCY AND REMOVING PROCEDURAL AMBIGUITIES
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IN RELATIONS AMONG COORDINATING GROUP, WORKING
GROUP OF SENOR OFFICIALS AND OTHER AD HOC WORK-
ING GROUPS. AS PROPOSED BY US, CHRISTENSEN FEARS
JURISDICTIONAL CONFLICTS WILL PROBABLY BE FRE-

QUENT AND TIME-CONSUMING.

2. ON BASIS DANISH EXPERIECES IN NORDIC COUNCIL, EFTA AND EC, CHRISTENSEN BELIEVES THAT THE ONLY WAY THE COORDINATING GROUP WILL BE ABLE TO FUNCTION EFFICIENTLY IS TO CLEARLY CENTRALIZE ALL RESPONSIBILITIES WITHIN THAT BODY, THIS COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED BY SETTING THE COORDINATING GROUP UP ON TWO LEVELS, THAT OF SENOR REPRESENTATIVES AND THAT OF THEIR DEPUTIES. UNDER IT, ANY APPROPRIATE NUMBER OF WORKING GROUPS COULD BE ESTABLISHED BUT THESE WOULD ALL BE RESPONSIBLE TO THE COORDINATING GROUP.

3. DANES BELIEVE SUCH ORGANIZATION WOULD CLEAR THE JURISDICTIONAL LINES, MAKE IT EASIER FOR THE DEPUTIES TO MONITOR AND COORDINATE THE ACTIVITIES OF AD HOC WORKING GROUPS, AND PERMIT REACHING THE MAXIMUM COORDINATION AND AGREEMENT (AD REFERENDUM TO THE SENIOR REPS) BY THE DEPUTIES THUS CLEARING THE DECKS FOR CONSIDERATION OF ONLY THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES BY THE SENIOR REPS.

4. EMBASY COMMENT. CHRISTENSEN IS ONE OF THE DANISH GOVERNMENT'S BEST ADMINISTRATORS AND HAS HAD LONG, FRUSTRATING EXPERIENCE WITH OPERATIONAL INEFFICIENCIES IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. HIS MAIN CONCERN IN THIS CASE IS TO AVOID JURISDICTIONAL DISPUTE AMONG WORKING GROUPS WHICH HE FEARS COULD CAUSE ENDLESS, AND FRUITLESS, PROCEDURAL ARGUMENTS. WE COMMEND HIS THOUGHTS FOR WASHINGTON CONSIDERATION.
CROWE UNQTE RUSH

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